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mercy to appear in my corrupt heart to heal me and chasten me. His mercy, so great and. undeserved, staggered me. The li^ht of His countenance, so pure, so holy I dared not approach it; but His paternal love, so sweet, so tender, T blessed Him. For a while in beatific ecstasy. I lay, drinking largely the sweets of divine communion; no temporal care, no anxiety dared interrupt that sweet beatitude."

Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa would go into ecstatic raptures at the very thought of the Supreme Being >a$ the Universal Mother whose felt presence he enjoyed almost every hour of his life from when he was a boy of hardly eight years. His avocation in the early period of his life was that of a priest at the temple of Kali in the village of Dakshineswar (Bengal). When he was 20 years old, on a certain occasion, he felt that the Mother withheld Her *darsan* to him. Unable to bear this separation, he became almost mad and was on the point of taking away his life. At that moment, he had a glorious vision which he described as follows:—

" One day I was torn with intolerable anguish. My heart seemed to be wrung as a damp cloth might be wrung ..... I was racked with pain. A terrible frenzy seized me at the thought that I might never be granted the blessing of this Divine vision. I thought if that were so, then enough of this life ! yA sword was hanging in the sanctuary of Kali. My eyes fell upon it and an idea flashed through my brain like a flash of lightning, " The sword I It will help me to end it." I rushed up to it, and seized it like a madman . . . Andio !

the whole scene, doors, windows, the
temple itself vanished .... It
seemed as if nothing existed any more.
Instead I saw an ocean of
the Spirit, boundless, dazzling. In whatever
direction I turned,
great luminous waves were rising. They
bore down upon me with
a loud roar as if to swallow m® ftp. In an
instant they were upon
me. They broke over me, they engulfed me.
I was suffocated. I
lost consciousness and I fell .*. . . How I
passed that day and the
next I| know not. Round me rolled an ocean
of ineffable joy. And
in the depths of my being I was conscious
of the presence of the
Divine Mother."

To the spiritual, all things are spiritual; to the divine eye, all things reveal divinity. When the Spirit of God fills Ahe soul like a medium, all things are seen as through a